(c) the steps taken and being taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) As per preliminary reports three Bt. Cotton hybrids released for commercial cultivation during the current cotton year have been found to be reasonably resistant against Bollworm thereby reducing the requirement of spray of insecticides.

Imposing of preventive measures against imports of cotton, including heavy import duty is not under consideration at present.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

Strike by silk reelers in Karnataka

4327. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Silk reelers in Karnataka State resorted to strike demanding banning of import of Cheap China Silk, if so, the details of demand;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to strike no one come forward to purchase/buy the cocoons from the farmers, threw their cocoons on roads and incurred losses; and

(c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to stop the import of Cheap China Silk and to save the farmers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. The demand of the silk reelers relates to curb on import of raw silk, silk yarn and silk fabric from China.

(b) No such instances have been reported.

(c) Government has taken the following steps to prevent market disruption:—

1. The Government of India *vide* Customs' Notification No. 2/2003 dated 2nd January, 2003 has imposed anti-dumping duty equivalent to the difference between the amount of US $ 33.19 per kg. and the landed value of imported mulberry raw silk (not thrown), 2A grade and below, originating in, or exported

from Peples' Republic of China. The said anti-dumping duty has been imposed provisionally, pending final determination and shall be effective upto 1st July, 2003;

2. CSB operates Raw Material Banks and provides Margin Money loan to the State Marketing Agencies to ensure fair price to primary farmers. Besides, in the major markets, State Government Agencies such as the Karnataka Silk Marketing Board play a stabilizing role by their presence in the Market;

3. During 2002-03 some State Governments formulated a short duration Scheme for providing incentive of Rs. 10/- per kg. of cocoons to farmers on cost sharing basis by the Centre and the respective State in the ratio of 50:50, order to provide relief to farmers from falling prices and encourage them to continue in sericulture; and

4. During the Tenth plan period enhanced plan provision over the Ninth plan period has been made *i.e.* Rs. 450/- crores for development of Research & Technology and implementation of Central and Centrally Sponsored programmes. Under the Central & Centrally sponsored programmes, Central Silk Board assists the State Governments and beneficiaries by way of grants-in-aid and technology support for quality and quantitative enhancement of production of silk.

Units of textiles industries

†4328. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI;
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of state for TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have made an assessment of number of units of cottage industries, small scale industries and heavy industries in textiles stitching industry;

(b) if so, the number of units of each of the above said sectors in the country during 2002;

(c) the average number of persons working in the units of each sector: and

(d) the average annual production in monetary terms in the units of each of these sector?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.